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HEAR BOTH SIDES, SENATORS

Students at Staples High School, Westport, Conn., were treated this week to a scare lecture, with movies, by New York cancer researcher Dr. Ernest Wynder on the alleged connection between lung cancer and cigaret smoking.

The Staples Student Senate now plans to review at its next meeting its rather liberal rules regarding smoking on school property.

Cigaret Our tip to the Staples Senators, and to
Dispute school students everywhere who have to listen to cancer-and-cigaretet propaganda: Insist on hearing the other side of the argument before you do anything about it.

The other side is that no laboratory experiment yet reported has shown cigarets to have given lung cancer to any human being; that the cigaret-cancer theory is based entirely on statistics. This side of the argument is upheld by at least as many, and as respectable, cancer students as is the claim that the cigaret is the big villain in the lung-cancer melodrama.

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Scientific Snipe Hunt

ONE nice thing about science: sometimes its laboriously discovered truths are self-evident to the non-scientists. But, self-evident or not, they have to be proved. So two New York doctors went cigaret butt hunting in four Canadian cities. They discovered:

- Cigaret butts left in department store washrooms tend to be longer than those left in transportation depots. Sometimes planes, trains and buses are a long time coming.

- Average length of filter-tip butts is greater than non-filter butts. Ever try smoking one of those filters?

- Butts left by the upper classes av-

erage longer than those dropped by the middle and lower classes.

Purpose of the collection: to inquire into the relationship of butt length to the incidence of lung cancer. The doctors reported, in the Journal of the Canadian Medical Association, that there might be some connection.

They picked up 6428 butts in the course of their researches and must be given high marks for industry. It seems, however, they might have employed a couple of professional bums for this chore. It wouldn't have cost more than a couple of bucks or the bums might have done it free, in the interest of science, provided they got to keep the butts.